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175 to non-Indians) and 161 (23 to Indians and 138 to non-Indians) in the Malabar district and 19 (5 to Indians and 14 to non-Indians) and 27 (6 to Indians and 21 to non-Indians) in the South Kanara district respectively.

" (b) The applicants for liquor permits are classified into two categories, namely :—

(1) Indians and (2) Non-Indians. In the case of Indians, permits are granted only in exceptional cases on production of a medical certificate from a paid Civil Surgeon. The quantity of liquor is fixed on the following basis of monthly income :—

Between Rs. 500—1,000—one unit per month.

Between Rs. 1,000—2,000—two units per month.

Over Rs. 2,000—four units as a special case.

" As regards non-Indians, permits are granted to those who are 21 years and above on production of their passports. The quantity of liquor allowed to them per month is four units, if their monthly income is below Rs. 500 and eight units, if it is Rs. 500 and above."

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" May I know from the Hon. Minister whether the medical certificate that has to be produced in the case of Indians is only to prove that the liquor is agreeable to their health or that they may collapse without liquor?"

THE HON. SRIMATHI JOTHI VENCATACHELLUM :—" Sir, that depends upon the opinion of the medical officer and not the Minister."

SRI T. ANANTA PAI :—" Sir, is the number of units allowed dependent upon the income of the applicant or the requirements of his health."

THE HON. SRIMATHI JOTHI VENCATACHELLUM :—" It depends on both. Permits are not issued to persons drawing salaries less than Rs. 500 a month, because they cannot afford to waste on liquors."

Appointment of Public Prosecutor in Tiruchirappalli.

* 173 *Q.*—SRI A. GOVINDASWAMY NAYAGAR : Will the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any rule that the appointment of Public Prosecutors should be made in accordance with the recommendations of the District Magistrates; and

(*b*) if so, whether this was followed in the appointment of the Public Prosecutor, Government Pleader, and Additional Public Prosecutor, Tiruchirappalli, recently?

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THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" (a) & (b) The Hon'ble Member is referred to the answers already given on the floor of the House to Legislative Assembly Question Nos. 340 and 892 tabled by the Hon'ble Members, Sri Aranganathan and Sri Kandaswami on the 1st and 4th March respectively and the exhaustive supplementaries thereto."

MR. SPEAKER :—" This question has come up before the House a number of times. Questions over. We were discussing the other day the Demand under Sales Tax. I have allotted three hours for this Demand. We have already taken half an hour the other day and we shall continue discussion to-day. The Hon. Minister will reply at 2-30 p.m."

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—VOTING ON DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR THE YEAR 1954–55.

(1) DEMAND VII—GENERAL SALES TAX AND OTHER TAXES AND DUTIES—ADMINISTRATION—*cont.*

* SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, the House will be aware that recently there has been a widespread agitation against the multi-point sales tax throughout the State. Several Conferences have been held throughout the State in every district against the multi-point sales tax. Thousands of Resolutions have been passed and sent to the Government to annul the continuance of the multi-point sales tax. Sir, if we examine the points that the merchants have urged upon this Government we can reduce them to a very few important matters. One of the most important items that the merchants have urged upon this Government is that the turn-over of the sales tax which is fixed at present at Rs. 10,000 should be raised to Rs. 40,000. Previously, at the time when the minimum turn-over was fixed the commodities were sold at very cheap rates. Now the same commodities are available only by paying four times the price that was obtaining in 1939 when the sales tax was first introduced in this State.

(At this stage the Deputy Speaker occupied the Chair.)

" Sir, if a poor person sells articles to the value of Rs. 50 a day he will be liable to pay sales tax because his annual turnover will be over Rs. 10,000. You may know, Sir, that a large majority of our people are illiterate persons and most of them are unemployed." **10-11 a.m.**

SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, are not hon. Members present in the House entitled to hear the hon. Member's speech in silence and peace? "

DEPUTY SPEAKER :—" I request hon. Members not to converse loudly inside the House. If they want to converse they may leave the House and do so outside. I hear a lot of noise and I am unable to hear the hon. Member speaking. I would request hon. Members not to disturb the proceedings."